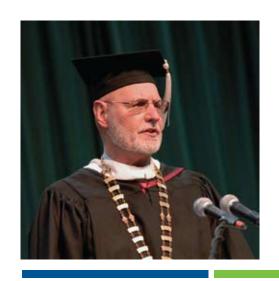
UNIVERSITY of ALASKA





President's Report 2007





President's Report 2007

"Moving Alaska Forward"



Letter from

M.A. President Mark Hamilton

Anyone who considers themselves a real Alaskan knows there is no other state in the union possessing the awesome natural beauty, abundant natural resources and bountiful economic opportunity that we enjoy here in Alaska. Each day, whether we look out over rushing tides, rolling rivers, valleys of spongy tundra or soaring mountain ranges, we know that we are truly blessed—blessed!—to live in this state.

Alaskans are hard workers. We provide for our families and communities, educate our citizens, young and old, and strive for an economy that will allow us to remain in this state for as long as we want. For most of us, that's the rest of our lives.

The University of Alaska plays such a crucial role. In the last 10 years, we've added 100 new degree and certificate programs that directly respond to highdemand jobs, right here in Alaska.

We're front and center on climate change and arctic research. The university has doubled the amount of its research grants over the last 10 years, a sign of incredible momentum. A recent national report shows the University of Alaska Fairbanks is among the top 10 in the nation for atmospheric sciences and meteorology among all doctoral-degree granting institutions.

Seven of our professors at UAF had a hand in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for 2007. An English professor at the University of Alaska Southeast in Juneau recently won the American Book Award. We have a Pulitzer-prize winning journalist as UAF's C.W. Snedden Endowed Chair of Journalism. Two faculty members, one at the University of Alaska Anchorage and one at the Bristol Bay Campus in Dillingham, are 2007 Fulbright Scholars.

The Carnegie Foundation recently classified UAA as an "engaged university," one of only 62 institutions across the nation noted for both curricular engagement and community outreach and partnerships. This is a great honor.

And then there are our students and alumni. A UAA honors student was awarded a 2007 Truman Scholarship. A UAA graduate won a Fulbright teaching grant to teach English as a foreign language in Germany. The Sundance Film Festival accepted a screenplay written by a UAF alum and co-produced by a UAF theater professor. Another alumnus was recently honored as a MacArthur "genius," one of only 24 MacArthur Fellows in the nation.

We now have 63 percent of Alaska's college-bound high school graduates choosing to attend UA, up from 44 percent not so long ago. UA institutions together granted an all-time record of 3,428 degrees and certificates last year, surpassing the previous record by more than 200.

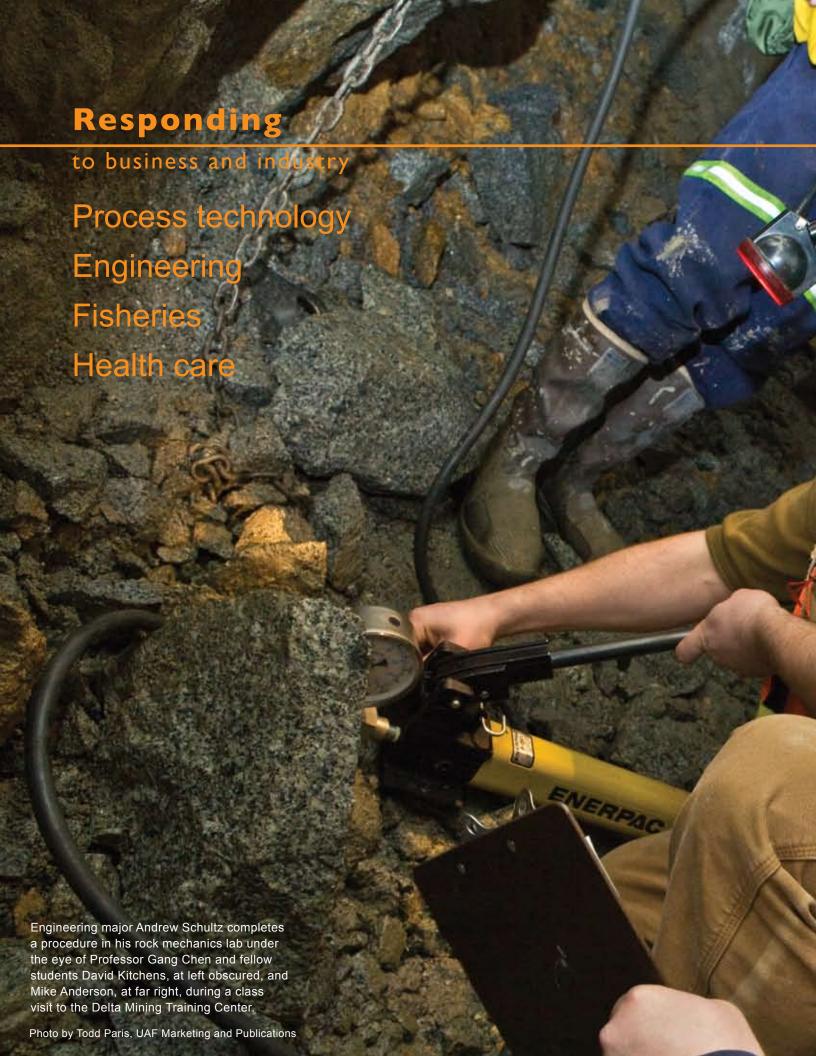
We're witnessing unprecedented support for the University of Alaska Foundation, which recorded its best year ever last fiscal year.

This isn't the time to sit back, however. We intend to double the number of engineering graduates, improve our undergraduate fisheries program, increase our health care offerings and step up training in our construction management, mining, and oil and gas process technology programs. We intend to make internal improvements for our students that will lead to greater retention and graduation rates.

Our governor understands the important role we play, as does our Board of Regents. They deserve our thanks, along with our faithful alumni, supporters and friends. Together with our chancellors and community campus directors, we're all working to make the University of Alaska system the best it can be.

Thank you for your continued support.

Man Allan-







Process Technology program "grows our own" for industry

Graduates of twoyear degree earn healthy paychecks

uring his senior year at North Pole High School, Matt Zanazzo considered his options after graduating. Family members had told him about the university's process technology program, so while he finished up his final year and played basketball for the North Pole Patriots, he enrolled in two classes through UAF's Tanana Valley Campus.

"It was interesting, and I knew there were jobs available," he says.

He enrolled full-time in the fall. After his first year of classes, a summer internship for BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc. cinched it for him. Zanazzo worked with process technicians at Northstar field, on an island five miles offshore of the Prudhoe Bay Field. They checked chemical rates and monitored the pressure and temperature

of the oil as it flowed out of the wells. His classroom training on pumps, gauges and valves suddenly made more sense—and he liked the hands-on work.

"It made me want to work there," he says.

He accepted a job at BP as a field operator the following spring—and started working a few weeks after he received his associate's degree. He had just turned

Zanazzo smiles when he talks about the phone call he received from the human resources department at BP: Would he accept a job for more than \$80,000 a year? Regular overtime during the 84-hour-a-week schedule boosted his income significantly. He works two weeks on and two weeks off.

The Process Technology program is one of many new university workforce programs that have grown directly out of an industry

responding to Alaska's highdemand jobs. More than 4,600 students are enrolled in the university's workforce development programs,

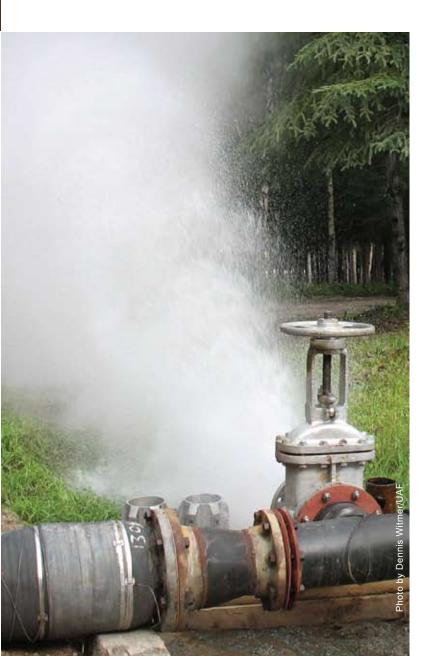
"I owe a great debt to this program"

Matt Zanazzo, TVC process tech graduate

need for trained Alaska workers. During the past nine years, the university has started 100 new degree and certificate programs directly

many of which lead to jobs with generous paychecks.

Meeting at a 1999 workshop, representatives of process



Did you know UA has:

- over 4,600 students enrolled in workforce programs deemed "high demand" by the state Department of Labor and Workforce Development
- offers over 200 career programs that take two years or less to complete
- answered industry's call for more graduates through the Process Technology and Mining and Petroleum Training Services programs
- started more than 100 new degree and certificate programs directly responding to highdemand jobs in the last 9 years
- attracted 63 percent of college-bound Alaska high school graduates, up from 44 percent 9 years ago

industries and the University of Alaska agreed that not enough Alaskans were being adequately prepared for jobs in the process industries. These include oil and gas production, fisheries, mining and milling, transportation and refining, utilities, wastewater treatment and facilities maintenance.

The university responded by working closely with the Alaska Process Industry Careers Consortium (APICC) to set up a process technology program that met industry's needs.

"Students not only get a good feel for what the job is, they also get an onthe-site job interview"

> Brian Ellingson TVC Process Technology Program Coordinator

Within months, the first classes were offeredand the program graduated the first process technicians in December of 2001. Since then, 275 graduates have completed requirements for the degree. The University of Alaska Anchorage and Kenai Peninsula College also offer the program.

Industry is hiring these graduates as fast as they are minted and, typically, these entry-level graduates earn between \$45,000 and \$72,000 a year, depending on the number of overtime hours worked.

The demand is expected to continue because of a bubble of upcoming retirements expected from retiring North Slope workers—and a steady need for process technicians in a variety of fields. Industry estimates that 30-50 entry-level jobs will be available every year for the next 10 years. The program graduates 50 a year.

Process technicians, or "operators," monitor and troubleshoot the equipment used in a wide variety of processes, whether it's oil exploration and oil production, generating power or running refineries. They also assure compliance with safety rules.

The process technology degree requires a mix of academic and technical coursework. Students learn about the operation of a wide variety of process equipment, maintenance and troubleshooting. They take apart valves, operate distillation simulators that are similar to those used by refineries, and learn how to operate a wide variety of process equipment through hands-on labs. While the program teaches students basic skills, it also teaches them how to learn, because their new jobs require constant learning.



Brian Ellingson







Brian Ellingson, who coordinates the program for Tanana Valley Campus and has taught classes in the program for the past five years, says his students are a mix of people fresh out of high school and mid-career job changers, including former teachers, mechanics and retired military. The program strongly encourages internships, offered by a variety of industries on the Slope and elsewhere.

"Students not only get a good feel for what the job is, they also get an on-the-site job interview," says Ellingson.

Zanazzo works in what is known as the "WOA" or Western Operating Area of Prudhoe Bay. He says his process technology training prepared him well for the job but he continues to learn new things daily, which keeps the job fresh. Oil is piped from the wells there to three "gathering centers," where oil, gas and water are separated, to Pump Station 1, where the oil begins its 800-mile journey to Valdez.

A large part of his job concerns ensuring safety for the other workers, but Zanazzo also troubleshoots problems and monitors the pressure and the temperature of oil in the wells on its way to gathering centers. He says he made the right decision about his schooling. "I owe a great debt to this program," he says.

When he's not working, Zanazzo enjoys traveling. So far, this young UA graduate's destinations have included the Caribbean, Las Vegas, Arizona and Texas.

Industry leaders support UA program



Photo courtesy Dave Rees

Dave Rees of BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc. says his company, which operates oil fields on Alaska's North Slope, hires all of its entry-level process technicians from the University of Alaska's Process Technology Program.

Altogether, BP has hired more than 80 graduates from the program, about one-third of the total number of graduates since December 2001, when the program graduated its first process technicians. Process technicians work for BP at well sites and processing facilities on the North Slope.

BP has been more than happy with the graduates, according to Rees, a technical resourcing specialist for BP. "These are top-notch folks and they are doing exactly what we need them to do." he says.

BP has been a strong supporter of the program since the beginning. Rees chairs the Alaska Process Industry Careers Consortium—the industry group that worked with the university to develop the program. The consortium continues to advise the university on the curriculum.

BP donated equipment to the program and continues to offer five, two-year scholarships to students every year. BP also hires 10-20 students every year as summer interns. BP likes the internships because it gives the students a better idea of the opportunities—and it's also an extended interview.

As Rees puts it, "It is getting Alaskans into these jobs."

UA engineering effort aims to double graduates

Students say education pays off



hris Kohler earned in civil engineering from the University of Alaska Anchorage in 2006. He didn't spend months waiting tables, working part-time at menial jobs or searching the classifieds with his resume at the ready.

"I graduated on a Sunday and went to work on Monday," he recalls.

Employed by Dowl Engineers in Anchorage, Kohler has specialized in site plan design, largely for residential and military housing projects. He lays out roads, drainage, utilities and sewer lines for projects, and he likes the work.

Finding a job wasn't difficult, since he served an internship with Dowl during his senior year at UAA. As graduation approached, he says, "They offered me a good job right away."

Kohler believes that all of the 20 or so civil engineering students who graduated with him had jobs lined up prior to graduation. It's an anecdote that doesn't surprise Rob Lang, the dean of UAA's School of Engineering. starting salaries in the range of \$50,000 to \$80,000 a year. Based on information from the American Society of Engineering Education, the University of Alaska graduated engineers in 2006 at a per capita rate

"I graduated on a Sunday and went to work on Monday"

Chris Kohler, UAA engineering graduate

The demand for engineers is greater in Alaska than many other states, but the state lags in the number of engineering graduates it produces despite attractive

that was roughly half the national average. Shortages are especially apparent for surveyors and electrical, mechanical, mining and petroleum engineers.



Construction of the \$87 million Integrated Sciences Building on the UAA campus is underway and due to open in fall 2009. The Board of Regents approved an accompanying three-story parking garage and loop road project to improve parking and traffic flow on the east side of campus.



Robert Lang -Dean of the School of Engineering

"We're still way low," says Lang.

Employers often have to look Outside to hire engineers. According to the Alaska Division of Occupational Licensing's Architecture, Engineering and Land Surveying Board (AELS), about half of the 5,000 licensed engineers in the state hold out-of-state residence addresses.

Lang says he regularly talks with employers who are desperate to hire Alaskatrained engineers, who have better understanding of northern engineering conditions and are more likely to want to live in Alaska.

The demand is expected to continue to grow as baby boomers approach retirement. Numbers released last year by the Alaska Department of Transportation show that more than one third of its engineering employees are eligible to retire now or within the next five years.

While additional funding is needed, the university is implementing a plan to double the number of undergraduate-trained engineers annually by 2012. Overall, engineering programs at UAA and UAF expect to produce 200 undergraduate engineers every year. Another goal is producing a total of 340 graduates in engineering-







related programs, from certificate and associate to Ph.D-level programs. Twenty-five students enrolled in the first bachelor's degree in construction management class this past fall.

The university expects the expanded engineering programs will attract additional students who would otherwise have to go to the Lower 48 for their training and education.

Kohler, who grew up in Wasilla, intended to study only two years at UAA and then transfer to a school Outside to finish a mechanical engineering degree. But he liked the atmosphere at UAA so much that he switched to civil engineering and stayed.

"You know every student in the engineering program and it was easy to talk to the instructor to get help," he says.

Staying in Alaska also allowed him to indulge a hobby—playing men's league hockey throughout college. Another attraction of the university was the value, he says. "I graduated with no debt."

The basics he learned through his schooling and two internships prepared him well for his job, he says. Perhaps the most valuable part of his schooling was learning how to troubleshoot problems, he says. "It really teaches you how to be a problem solver."

"I graduated with no debt"

Chris Kohler



Associate Professor Leroy Hulsey stands with project leaders Curtis Nordin, Ben Townsend, Wilhelm Muench and Garrett Thatcher of UAF's steel bridge team in front of their creation during a public demonstration in Wood Center.



Catch of the Day

UAF's School of Fisheries celebrates success and plans for expansion

One of UAF's graduates from the School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences has been named a national Sea Grant Knauss Fellow. The prestigious yearlong fellowship in Washington, D.C., is widely considered an important step in the career of marine scientists and managers.

Seanbob Kelly, who completed both his undergraduate and master's degrees at UAF, says the fellowship is one of many opportunities he's received while studying at the University of Alaska. Others included summer internships with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, research jobs during the school year and a job assisting salmon researchers on the Andreafsky River in southwest Alaska.

Knauss Fellows receive a year's stipend to work in Washington, either within federal marine resource agencies or in Congressional and Senate committees that help set the nation's marine policies.

Kelly says, "I want to see the whole process and see where I can help out the most."

Fisheries students making a difference

The fellowship was established in 1979 to provide insight and training to graduate-level university students interested in how the nation's marine resources are managed and how marine policies are made. It is named in honor of John A. Knauss, one of Sea Grant's national founders and former National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) administrator. Sea Grant is a nationwide network of 30 university-based NOAA programs engaged in scientific research,

education, training and extension projects aimed at better understanding and managing the nation's marine and Great Lakes resources.

Kelly, who received his master's degree in fisheries in December, starts the fellowship in February. This year, more than 75 graduate students nationwide applied to be Knauss Fellows. Of these, 52 were selected. Alaska Sea Grant submitted two SFOS fisheries students to the fellowship competition.

"This is a very competitive university fellowship across the country, and the demands are high for the recipients," says Brian Allee, director of Alaska Sea Grant, based at UAF's SFOS. "We are very fortunate to have had two extremely strong candidates, and that one candidate was selected for this prestigious fellowship. It's a feather in UAF's cap for its students to have competed so well."



Building for the future

Workers Tim O'Donnell and Kirk Bowen busy inside the university's new Lena Point Fisheries Facility in Juneau, which should be completed by fall 2008.



Denis Wiesenburg -Dean of the School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences

For his master's thesis, Kelly analyzed the chemical composition of tiny ear bones in Pacific herring, one of the species of fish most affected by the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill in Prince William Sound. The ear bones, called otoliths, contain chemical footprints similar to rings on trees that can indicate where a fish has been, says Kelly. He studied 1,000 fish to try to determine the most important spawning grounds for herring in Prince William Sound. The sound's once-lucrative herring fishery no longer exists.

Kelly, who calls Juneau home, expects to return to Alaska after his fellowship—to bring back what he's learned and apply it to his home state.

Denis Wiesenburg, dean of the School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, says the university wants to educate more Alaskans to manage the state's fisheries. He believes that Alaska-trained students will be more concerned about the long-term sustainability of Alaska's fishery resources.

Wiesenburg likes to point out that Alaska has more than half the nation's coastline and one of the largest fisheries in the world. "What better place to study fisheries and ocean sciences than in Alaska?" he asks.

Yet, according to the dean, most of the fisheries research in Alaska waters is done by researchers from other institutions. The University of Alaska intends to change this through an ambitious fisheries expansion aimed at elevating the school to national prominence—and increasing the number of its graduates. The initiative will upgrade the fisheries program and expand its offerings.

Currently, the Bachelor of Science degree in fisheries prepares students for careers in fishery harvest management and research, says Wiesenburg. Most graduates work for agencies that regulate the fishing industry.







But the university also hopes to train students for fishing industry-related jobs, such as seafood marketing, fisheries development and industry management. "They could be your plant manager in Dillingham," Wiesenburg says.

The school has been working with a committee comprised of federal and state fish and game representatives as well as members of the seafood industry to develop a new Bachelor of Arts degree in fisheries, which, when approved, will be offered by fall semester 2008.

"We're trying to produce graduates that industry wants to hire," Wiesenburg says.

As part of the school's expansion plan, new courses in seafood marketing, fisheries economics, aquaculture in Alaska and other subjects are expected to strengthen the existing program—and to prepare graduates for more opportunities. The goal is to make more internships available to fisheries students and to provide more support to rural students who might be interested in a fisheries career. The expansion also will strengthen SFOS' existing master's degree and doctoral programs.

The initiative is funded in part by a six-year, \$5 million grant from the Rasmuson Foundation, which will be matched by university funds. The university's new Lena Point Fisheries Facility in Juneau, which should be completed by fall 2008, also will provide the fisheries program with much needed research space---vital to program accreditation and expansion.

Research continues to be important, Wiesenburg notes, because climate change is having a major impact on the oceans, fisheries and marine mammals in Alaska waters. Faculty and students are studying these changes to understand their impact on the ocean, its resources and people who depend upon the catch.



Under Construction

The university's new Lena Point facility in Juneau will provide much needed research space for the School of Fisheries.



Nursing program doubles graduates

UA delivers nearly 1,300 students in health-care related fields annually

partnership between the University of Alaska and hospitals in Southeast Alaska is ushering in a new era of locally trained healthcare workers for the state's Panhandle.

A pinning ceremony for associate degree graduates was held in December in Juneau at the Egan Library, on the UAS campus. Bartlett Regional Hospital has offered five members of the class of seven jobs at the hospital, where they worked as interns while completing their degrees.

The new hires are part of a growing and positive trend at UA across the state. The number of nursing graduates from the University of Alaska has doubled since 2001 as University of Alaska Anchorage partners with sister campuses and hospitals across the state to deliver the high-quality program. "Hospitals across our state have saved millions in recent years simply by being able to hire locally trained nurses,

instead of importing them from Outside," UA President Mark Hamilton says.

The Juneau graduates bring the total tally of new nursing graduates from Southeast Alaska to 38. Earlier in December, 10 nurse gradates from UAS-Ketchikan received their pins at a traditional ceremony held at the Crow's Nest on the Coast Guard base. All plan to practice in Ketchikan, according to UAA Ketchikan faculty Maureen Northway.

"It is exciting to celebrate the graduation of the UAA nursing students in Southeast Alaska. Our regional partnerships with the UAA School of Nursing, Bartlett Regional Hospital, Ketchikan General Hospital, Sitka Community Hospital and the Southeast Alaska Regional Health Corp. continue to provide UAS students with the opportunity to start their careers in nursing right here in Southeast Alaska," says UAS Dean of Career Education Karen Schmitt.

Nursing graduates

Nursing instructor Chris Urata, left, lights candles for O. Ken Hirsch, center, and Deanna Browne, two of the seven graduates from the University of Alaska Anchorage School of Nursing during a recent ceremony at the UAS Egan Library in Juneau.

The Juneau students learned to start IVs, do catheters, take blood pressure and dress wounds at a lab established at the Bill Ray Center. They attended weekly video

But UA's health-care offerings aren't limited to nursing. The system has roughly 4,330 students in health training courses, including radiation technology, behavioral health, social work,

"Hospitals across our state have saved millions in recent years simply by being able to hire locally trained nurses"

UA President Mark Hamilton

conferences and got handson experience at Wildflower Court, Southeast Regional Health Corp. and Valley Medical.

"It's been an honor to work with this group and help them achieve their goals," said Juneau faculty Chris Urata.

The graduate nurses take their National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN) in Anchorage early this year.

physician's assistant, dental assistant and numerous other fields. While nursing graduates have doubled since 2001, graduates in related allied health fields, such as those mentioned above, have tripled.

The university is now graduating over 1,200 students in health-related fields each year, says UA Associate Vice President of Health Programs Karen Perdue.

Innovation Award honors UA health programs

Through the Denali Commission, the university's allied health program received national recognition in 2007. An "Innovation Award" from the National Association of Development Organizations, of which the Denali Commission belongs, singled out UA's allied health training programs, which receive funding for several initiatives through the Denali Commission, a NADO member. NADO provides advocacy, education and research in support of the nation's regional development organizations.

While the award technically goes to the Denali Commission, it speaks highly of the collaborative approach the university has taken with its allied health programs. "Having an outside entity validate the incredibly hard work of so many people is very satisfying," says UA President Mark Hamilton.



Justin Powers and Brian Cooper, graduates from the UAF Tanana Valley Campus paramedic program, stand in front of their emergency response vehicle.

"In the past five years, we've seen enrollment increase by 61 percent, and graduates increase by 41 percent. Demand by the industry is huge. As much as the university has stepped up its programs in light of this need, we still can't fulfill the gap completely within our state," Perdue says. "We hope to change that in the coming years."

Perdue has led a team of health-care faculty across the system in what many hold up as a model for cooperation that crosses traditional campus boundaries. The result has been a comprehensive program that students want and the healthcare industry demands. The program has heavily utilized UA's distance delivery mode of educating students, maximizing

resources and avoiding higher costs. Twenty-three percent of Alaska's health-care workers are employed in rural Alaska, Perdue notes.

The university's FY09 budget request includes a category called "Preparing Alaskans for Jobs," which would provide \$2.6 million for health-care programs, including increasing support for the associate of applied science degree in nursing at UAA; expanding the paramedic program throughout the system and increasing health sciences faculty at the Sitka campus.

"The partnerships with the health-care industry have been key," Perdue says. "Without them, we couldn't have come this far."







Hospitals know benefits of UA partnership

Mike Powers, chief executive officer for Fairbanks Memorial Hospital and Denali Center, makes the statement without hesitation: "We have no stronger partner, relative to workforce training, than the University of Alaska."

Only five years ago, the hospital and long-term care facility in Fairbanks had a 17 percent ongoing vacancy rate in its nursing staff. Like many other hospitals across Alaska, FMH prefers to hire locally because recruiting from the Lower 48 costs thousands of dollars per position, due to higher wages demanded by temporary workers, as well as the associated costs of travel, room and board, rental car and other expenses.

Since 2002, Fairbanks Memorial Hospital and Denali Center hired 55 nurses and 22 imaging technicians—all UA trained—at a savings of \$1.5 million, Powers estimates. In the past year alone, Powers says FMH has assisted 150 nursing students, 36 paramedic students and 17 radiology students with their clinical rotations. And in the past five years, FMH has contributed \$565,000 toward UA's healthcare programs.

"The partnership is so appreciated by the university," says UA President Mark Hamilton. "Kudos to people like Mike Powers, Al Parrish (CEO of Providence Hospital in Anchorage) and the late Bob Valiant of Bartlett Regional Hopsital in Juneau, and many others. We simply couldn't be as responsive to the needs of the health-care sector without the strong cooperation from the industry itself."

The health care industry, as a whole, has contributed an average of \$4 million annually to the University of Alaska for its health-care programs—a necessary partnership until regular state dollars can provide a predictable source of funding for what Hamilton calls "a vital piece of workforce training in Alaska."



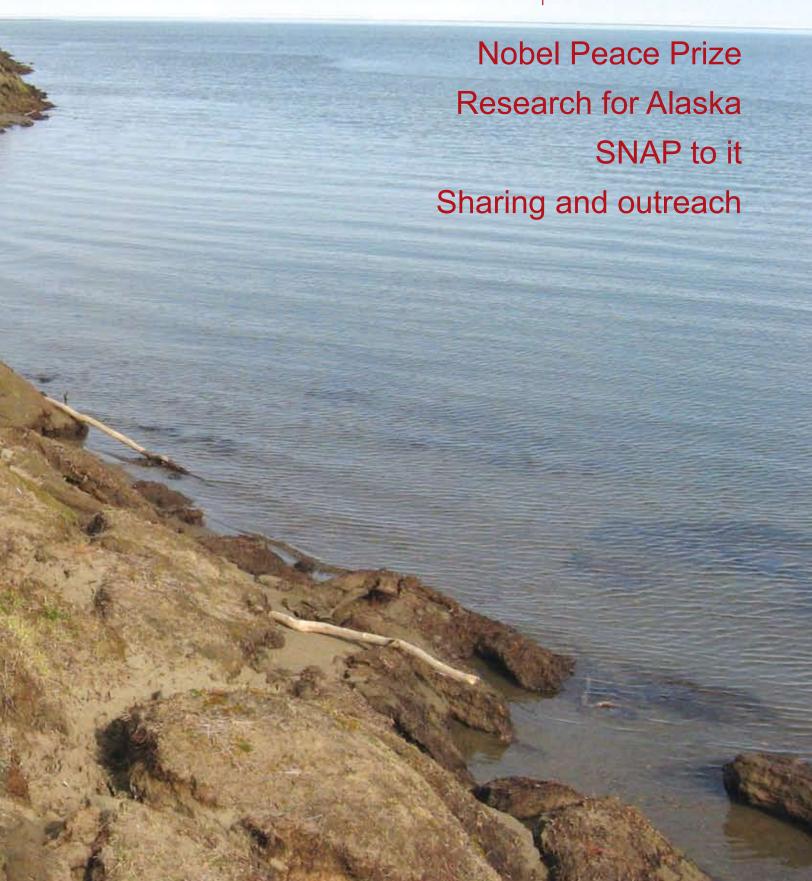
Photo by Kate Ripl

Mike Powers, CEO for Fairbanks Memorial Hospital and Denali Center



Questioning

our place in the world





UA Research Plays Vital Role on World Stage...

While Serving Alaskans and State First

lobal climate change Gis a hot topic lately. But here at the University of Alaska, professors and students have been studying the issue for decades.

"The Arctic is the canary in the coal mine-we notice the effects of climate change earlier here than in most other parts of the world," says UA President Mark Hamilton. "We're in the catbird seat, and have accumulated vast amounts of data and expertise over many years. Now, finally, the rest of the world is paying attention."

Hamilton is referring to the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize, shared between the massive United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change—which has involved the work of seven UA scientists-and former U.S. Vice President Al Gore.

The UA researcher with the largest role was President's **Professor of Climate Change** John Walsh, chief scientist at UAF's International Arctic Research Center. Others who made significant contributions include Terry Chapin and Dave

McGuire, of UAF's Institute of Arctic Biology; Vladimir Romanovsky, of UAF's Geophysical Institute; Kenji Yoshikawa, of UAF's Institute of Northern Engineering; Larry Hinzman, IARC director; and Gunter Weller, professor emeritus during ceremonies in Oslo, Norway in December. He says the most important aspect of the scientists' work is the distillation of a tremendous amount of scientific research into a form suitable for a broad audience. Walsh says researchers involved with the panel have grown stronger in their collective conviction that humans play a significant role in global climate change, though there are debatable points and skeptics. Walsh views that skepticism as a

"The facts of climate change need to be intelligible"

John Walsh President's Professor of Climate Change

of the GI and former director of the Center for Global Change and Arctic System Research.

Walsh was one of eight lead authors of the polar regions chapter in the latest IPCC study, the fourth in a series. He's modest about his role in the report as well as the shared Nobel prize, awarded

"The facts of climate change need to be intelligible to policymakers, and the potential consequences of climate change need to be understood by anyone concerned about the world of our children and grandchildren," Walsh says.

healthy part of the scientific debate. "If climate scientists cannot convince their colleagues about the nature of climate change, they are unlikely to convince planners and policymakers," Walsh says.



John Walsh, chief scientist at UAF's International Arctic Research Center, is the President's Professor of Climate Change and one of the nation's leading experts on climate change in polar regions.



Buck Sharpton - UAF Vice Chancellor for Research



Douglas Causey - UAA Vice Provost for Research and Graduate Studies

Research about Alaska for Alaska

World-wide accolades aren't the prime motivator for UA research. Research in areas such as coastal erosion, transportation, alternative energy and many other areas directly benefit the health, welfare and economic stability of Alaska and its residents.

"UA research plays an integral role in ensuring that the next generation of Alaskans has the skill set and resourcefulness to successfully meet the challenges of our future," says UAF Vice Chancellor for Research Buck Sharpton. "As we continue to focus investment in energy and transportation research. biomedical research, climate change and information technology, our faculty and staff deliver results that help tackle some of Alaska's toughest issues."

UAA Vice Provost for Research and Graduate Studies Douglas Causey points to several examples of this kind of in-depth study at UAA. Causey, a biologist, has studied the role of Alaska's migratory birds in the spread and transmission of Avian influenza and other human diseases. UAA geology scientists are currently studying the geochemistry of arsenic in

Anchorage groundwater—a significant source of drinking water with over 11,000 private wells. Researchers at UAA's Environmental and Natural Resources Institute are studying the effect of arctic warming on the tundra ecology, water quality, and distribution and abundance of arctic plants and animals. A task force called the Resilience and Adaptive Management Group is working with local communities in rural Alaska to prepare for the future.

Other examples of applied research include the UAA Justice Center, which is studying new approaches for teenagers caught in the cycle of drugs, alcohol and crime. UAA's Institute of Social and Economic Research conducted a broad study on the costs of global climate change to public infrastructure, such as roads, buildings, docks and airports.

"Research at the University of Alaska is critical for improving Alaska's future and the lives of Alaskans," Causey says. "Our findings are providing Alaskans with a better understanding of change, and helping local and state leaders plan for the future.







SNAP program provides collaboration

UA is working across campus and institutional boundaries as well, with programs like the Scenarios Network for Alaska Planning (SNAP). SNAP links the latest in university research with government agencies, businesses, industries and non-profit organizations so they can properly plan for various scenarios or development projects in the face of rapid environmental change. Faculty members developed SNAP, and President Hamilton has supported it with a \$1.5 million investment over the next two years. Linking the latest data available to the interested parties will allow them to develop well-informed plans for communities, transportation, coastlines, infrastructure, forests and other natural resources.

Sharing what we know

At UAS in Juneau, Cathy Connor, associate professor of geology and environmental science, and other professors created the EDGE program--Experiential Discoveries in Geoscience Education. EDGE helps middle and high school teachers design exciting curriculum that meets state standards, while helping train the next generation of scientists and researchers.

A cohort of 14 teachers this last year took on a series of workshops, courses and projects aimed at learning research methodology. The program took them to the top of the Mendenhall Glacier as well as rafting trips down the Mendenhall River to apply what they had learned.

UA Research: Big Player in Alaska Economy

- UA research employs 2,400 people. Annual payroll = \$92 million
 - 50 percent direct UA employees
 - 50 percent privatesector spin off jobs
- UA has more than doubled the amount of externally funded research from \$60 million in FY99 to \$151 million in FY06
- Goods & services purchased due to UA research totals \$125 million annually
- Every \$1 in state general fund invested leverages \$6 from outside sources



UA's Unmanned Aircraft

(L to R) Martin Susser, program manager at Insitu Inc., and the Geophysical Institute's Don Hampton load the 40-pound unmanned aircraft system onto its launcher at the Stewart Creek impact area. The aircraft made six flights in June and logged more than 18 hours of flight time, capturing images of wildfire fuels in the area. The plane, a model dubbed "Insight," was designed and manufactured by Insitu Inc. and is owned by the Geophysical Institute at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. The plane's nickname is "Martha," after Federal Relations Director Martha Stewart.







UA reaches out to students, parents, community

"I Know I Can" encourages college and career dreams

Ascampering squirrel, industrious beaver, helpful rabbit and lazy owl visited hundreds of second-graders in Juneau, Anchorage and Fairbanks last spring. They told children via a colorful picture book entitled "I Know I Can" that college is within reach and that they should start planning now.

Alumni volunteers from the UAA, UAF and UAS read "I Know I Can" aloud and distributed copies to each child. Six classrooms participated in the project,

the first attempt of its kind in Alaska and jointly sponsored by the University of Alaska College Savings Program and the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education.

The story is meant to be taken home and discussed with parents, says Linda Luper, director of the UA College Savings Plan.

"Second grade is an appropriate time to initiate discussions about life goals, and how college fits in with those ideas and dreams. Research

shows that children learn to think of themselves as having college aspirations and related career opportunities by as early as age eight," Luper says.

The alumni volunteers had students draw a postcard showing what they want to be when they grow up. When the participating children complete elementary school, the postcard will be mailed back to them to remind them of their goals. "The participation of alumni in this pilot project is very exciting. As alumni and graduates, they certainly can speak from the heart about the value of their college education," Luper says.

"As alumni and graduates, they certainly can speak from the heart about the value of their college education"

Linda Luper UA College Savings Plan

"I Know I Can" supplements many other outreach efforts, including:

UA's ninth-grade viewbook, "What's In Your Future," a 14-page glossy publication mailed to the home of every ninth-grade student in Alaska.

The "Planning on College" bookcover, emphasizing appropriate classes needed for admission into a baccalaureate degree program.

The "Dream Big" poster, which goes out to sixth graders in Alaska's elementary school system as well as counselors and teachers. The poster promotes saving money for college, taking the right classes, learning good study habits and dreaming big about the future.

February FAFSA Frenzy, a monthlong, multi-faceted effort to promote the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid).

College Goal Sunday, a partnership with the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education to provide statewide workshops on a Sunday in February to help students complete the FAFSA.



UAF sophomore Julia Coulter, helps Trinity Ante, left, spell "librarian" as Xavier Ughutevbe, second from left, works on his postcard as a group of volunteers from the University of Alaska Fairbanks joined students at Denali Elementary School to read and talk about going to college.



Mary Rutherford -**UA** Foundation President

UA Foundation celebrates record-breaking year

The fiscal year that ended June 30, 2007 proved to be one of the best in the history of the University of Alaska Foundation. The number of donors, the value of gifts and investment returns in fiscal year 2007 were up significantly from previous years.

More than 5,900 individuals, businesses and foundations made charitable gifts totaling more than \$20 million in support of University of Alaska programs and students. This compares to just over 4,700 donors who contributed \$18.3 million the previous year. Many more individuals gave gifts. Individual giving represented 31 percent of the total contributions, compared to 10 percent the previous year.

These increases directly translate to good news for the University of Alaska, the foundation's sole beneficiary.

"We are humbled and grateful that donors chose to entrust the University of Alaska Foundation with their generosity. We take that trust very seriously," says **UA Foundation President Mary** Rutherford. "The increases in private giving and a stronger investment performance mean university programs and students will enjoy the generosity of others today and in years to come."

Seventy-eight percent of donors designated their gifts to specific programs, building projects, equipment and scholarships. Approximately one-third of the donations were contributed toward endowments, which will provide for UA in perpetuity.

The foundation also enjoyed a year of remarkable investment performance. The annual return on the Consolidated Endowment Fund was the highest since the fund's inception. The foundation earned 18.05 percent on the fund, compared to 12.32 percent in fiscal year 2006. The fund's market value as of June 30, 2007, was \$266.5 million, an increase of \$42.4 million (18.9 percent) over fiscal year 2006. Over the last three years, the Foundation's Consolidated Endowment Fund has earned 13.8 percent, and it has earned 11 percent over the last five years.







UA Day at the Palmer State Fair

UA Day at the Palmer State Fair on Labor Day 2007 kicked off College Savings Month and provided alums and staff from UAA, UAF, UAS and the statewide system an opportunity to pass along information, activities and giveaways to many attendees. The college savings program gave a \$5,000 account to one lucky fair-goer. UAA's Seawolf and UAF's Nanook polar bear mascots were spotted milling around the fairgrounds.



UA Athletes ---

At The Top of Their Games



The overall grade-point average for student athletes at UAF was a record high of 3.27 for spring 2007 semester. 18 student-athletes were named to their respective sports' conference all-academic teams, while six more were NCAA Academic All-Americans. The women's swim team was recognized with Academic Team All-American honors.

UAF freshman swimmer Kelly Becker became the first Nanook in 20 years to swim at the NCAA Swimming Championships and reach All-American honors. She finished 10th in the 200-yard butterfly to become an honorable mention All-American.

The Nanook hockey team won a first-round playoff series for the third consecutive season, knocking off Western Michigan. In the last three seasons, the Nanooks won three first-round playoffs, the most in the CCHA, and a total of nine postseason victories, a feat only equaled by 2007 national champion Michigan State.

Siblings Marius and Aurelia Korthauer each earned 1st Team All-American honors at the 2007 NCAA Skiing Championships. Marius was a double All-American, taking home the bronze medal in the 10k Freestyle and 20k Classic races, while Aurelia reached All-American status in the 15k Classic race. Freshman Julia Coulter was a 2nd Team All-American in the Women's 5k Freestyle race.

National Champions

The Alaska Nanooks rifle team hosted and won the 2007 NCAA Men's and Women's Championships for the first time in school history. UAF rifle coach Dan Jordan, left, celebrates his team's second consecutive national title with shooters Matthias Deirolf, Matt Rawlings, Christian Lejon and Patrick Sartz. The national champion title was the Nanooks' ninth, in front of a record crowd. All six participating members earned first or second team All-American honors.







The 2006-07 **Seawolves women's basketball team** finished 23-6 for the second-best record in program history, advancing to the second round of the NCAA Tournament. The Seawolves then started the 2007-08 season by beating two more Division I teams to repeat as Carrs/Safeway Great Alaska Shootout champions. UAA is currently ranked in the top 10 in NCAA Division II.

Senior Mary Pearce became the first Seawolf to capture multiple **All-America honors in track and field** when she finished fourth in the 400-meter dash at the 2007 NCAA Outdoor Track & Field Championships. Junior David Kiplagat ran to 26th place at the NCAA Cross Country Championships, for the best individual national finish in school history. The Kenyan also became just the second Seawolf to earn All-America honors in the sport.

Seawolf athletes had an overall GPA above 3.0 for the 11th time in 14 years. There were 126 UAA student-athletes above 3.0 for spring and fall 2007 semesters, representing approximately 60 percent of Seawolf competitors. Fourteen had straight 4.0 GPAs for fall 2007 semester.

The **Seawolf hockey team** went 3-0-1 against arch-rival UAF to capture its second straight Alaska Airlines Governor's Cup. The cup was presented Dec. 29, 2007, at Carlson Center in Fairbanks.

The **men's basketball team** went 19-9, earning its second straight NCAA Tournament berth. This year's Seawolf team began the season nationally ranked and was the preseason favorite to win the Great Northwest Athletic Conference.

University of Alaska Anchorage: system's largest campus continues to grow



Fran Ulmer named UAA's interim chancellor in 2007

New chancellor takes helm

President Mark Hamilton named Fran Ulmer as UAA's interim chancellor in 2007. Ulmer, a former mayor, legislator and lieutenant governor with a long history of public service in Alaska, directed UAA's Institute of Social and Economic Research for two years, was a fellow at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government and served 10 years on the International North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission, with representatives from Japan, Russia, Canada and the United States.

Colleges respond to student needs

The College of Health and Social Welfare developed a collaborative agreement with Nebraska's Creighton University to bring a fully-

accredited, distance-delivered occupational therapy program to UAA. The college's Recruitment and Retention of Alaska Natives in Nursing (RRANN) program received a two-year \$667,700 grant from the U.S. Department of Education for student support and stipends. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, awarded a three-year \$1.1 million grant to promote diversity in the nursing workforce.

The School of Nursing received \$97,000 per year for each of the next two years from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Rasmuson Foundation to support the extension of RRANN activities in Bethel. Meanwhile, the Alaska Area Health Education Centers have received a three-year, \$2.8 million grant for student and rural community support, and travel stipends.

UAA graduated a record number of students in May 2007-more than 2000







Community and Technical College's two-year medical lab technical program and the Bachelor of Science (four-year) program in medical technology both received full, seven-year accreditations from the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Lab Sciences.

The School of Engineering's Engineering, Science and Project Management (ESPM) program received accreditation from the Project Management Institute Global Accreditation Center. UAA's ESPM Department is one of only a dozen universities worldwide to receive this accreditation. Meanwhile, the expansion of the undergraduate program resulted in a 20 percent spike in engineering enrollment, requiring recruitment of several new faculty members to help

respond to demand. In other news, the Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP) received a \$1.4 million grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce for equipment.

The Master of Business Administration program with the College of Business and Public Policy saw a 30 percent increase in MBA enrollments.

An online Master of Logistics Certificate program co-taught with Boise State University began offering courses in the Spring 2007 term. With the approval of this program, the UAA College of Business and Public Policy now offers a complete career pathway of global logistics education options, from undergraduate certificate to post-graduate opportunities.

Student enrollment in the College of Education grew from 2,700 in 2004 to nearly 3,900 in 2007.

The college will follow a trimester system starting in spring 2008, allowing students more flexibility and the ability to complete programs more quickly. A new master's degree in teacher leadership is now offered through the Department of Educational Leadership, and a graduate certificate in special education is now available.

The National Science Foundation recently awarded a grant of \$270,000 to David Pfeiffer and Khrystyne Duddleston, Department of Biological Sciences' faculty members in the College of Arts and Sciences, to establish a summer program for undergraduate research.



The Integrated Sciences Building will provide 120,000-square-feet of up-to-date offices and workspace and state-of-the-art teaching laboratories. The ISB supports UAA's expanding research activities. Enrollment in UAA's science programs has grown more than 27 percent in the past decade outpacing enrollment growth in the rest of the University by 15 percent.



UAA professor Sharman Haley named 2007-2008 **Fulbright Scholar**

Faculty, students earn honors

Sharman Haley of ISER received a 2007-2008 Fulbright Scholar grant for her research on the local economic benefits from Arctic development related to mining, oil and gas projects. This year, approximately 800 U.S. faculty and professionals received Fulbright Scholar awards to lecture and conduct research abroad. These scholars joined the nearly 100,000 scholars who have received a Fulbright award since the program's inception in 1946.

The University Honors College was established in spring 2007. University Honors student Umair Iqbal was awarded a 2007

Truman Scholarship. Psychology graduate Rebekah Moras won a Fulbright Teaching Grant to teach English as a foreign language in Germany.

The Governor's Committee on **Employment and Rehabilitation** of People with Disabilities named Summer Engler, a senior biology major in UAA's College of Arts and Sciences, Alaskan of the Year.

Community and Technical College's 2007 graduating class of dental hygiene students placed second in the nation on their National Board Examination, the second time in three years that UAA's dental hygiene students have placed second nationally.







UAA research makes significant inroads

The National Science Foundation recently awarded nearly \$750,000 to UAA researchers to study how Yup'ik and Chukchi

communities in remote areas of Western Alaska and the Russian Far East adapt to fluctuations of subsistence salmon.

The National Institutes of Health awarded a nearly \$3 million grant to Mark Johnson and Gloria Eldridge, faculty members in the Department of Psychology in the College of Arts and Sciences, to examine the ethics of conducting HIV/AIDS research in prisons. Johnson and colleague Chris Brems also were awarded two, two-year, \$275,000 and \$100,000 grants from National Institute of Drug Abuse to study HIV prevention and risk behaviors.

The National Science Foundation awarded a \$9 million grant to Alaska's Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) for the third phase of "Resilience and Vulnerability in a Rapidly Changing North: The Integration of Physical, Biological and Social Processes." UAF is a partner in this project.

Campus sees upgrades and improvements

The UAA Commons was renamed the Edward Lee Gorsuch Commons, in honor of UAA's former chancellor from 1994 to 2004.

Construction of the \$87 million Integrated Science Building is underway and due to open in fall 2009. The Board of Regents approved an accompanying three-story parking garage and loop road project to improve parking on the east side of campus.



The National Institutes of Health awarded a nearly \$3 million grant to UAA's Behavorial Health Research and Services department. Under the leadership of Mark Johnson and Gloria Eldridge (center and right), with the assistance of Christiane Brems (left), BHRS will implement this five-year grant that will explore the ethical challenges of conducting HIV research with prisoners.



Famed late **Anchorage** gardener, Lenore Helda, bequeaths \$1 million to UAA

UAA benefits from generous philanthropic support

UAA received a \$1 million gift from the estate of Lenore Hedla to benefit students and programs in the College of Business and Public Policy.

The gift from the late Hedla, wellknown throughout Anchorage and the state as an expert gardener, is the second-largest from an individual in UAA's history. Of the total, \$700,000 will be used to create the George M. Hedla Endowment. Named for Lenore's Certified Public Accountant husband of 38 years, the endowment will fund student opportunities and professorships in the accounting program. The other \$300,000 will be used to provide scholarships for accounting students; educational opportunities for faculty and students: and further excellence in education at the college.

The Rasmuson Foundation has pledged \$2 million to UAA's Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP) for an endowed chair. This grant will ultimately produce \$4 million for the extremely successful program for recruitment and training of Alaska Natives into highly skilled careers.

A \$1 million donation from Weidner Investment Services, a real estate investment company based in Kirkland, Wash., has resulted in the College of Business and Public Policy starting up a new real estate and property management emphasis within the Bachelor's in Business Administration program. This program will be a major source to prepare students entering the professional property management field.

Rasmuson alumni challenge grant a huge success

The Rasmuson Foundation challenge grant of \$100,000 to support increased alumni giving at UAA officially ended Dec. 31, 2007, resulting in \$200,000 total for UAA programs plus an additional \$7,925 in gifts from UAA alums. Chancellor Ulmer agreed to match the additional gifts through her discretionary University of Alaska Foundation account---providing even more mileage for UAA programs that alums support.







UAA's community campuses have busy and successful year

Mat-Su College initiated a quickstart program for developmental reading and writing for students. This will allow a smoother transition from developmental to freshman writing courses.

Prince William Sound Community College's 15th annual student scholarship fundraiser raised a record \$40,000 for student scholarships to attend PWSCC. Meanwhile, the U.S. Department of Agriculture awarded the college a \$100,000 grant to support a wellness and nutrition program for resident students.

The enrollment of full-time degree-seeking students at Kodiak College has increased due to enhanced student advising. The college completed its first-ever academic summer session, with 15 different sections ranging from accounting and computer information to anthropology and human services. It also created the Jump Start program for high school students and firsttime freshmen. Meanwhile, the Board of Regents approved a new Associate of Applied Science Technology degree at Kodiak, including certificates, with concentrations in welding, construction and occupational safety. Barbara Bolson was appointed permanent director of the college after serving in an interim capacity.

Kenai Peninsula College saw construction completed in June 2007 of the \$3 million, 7,000-square-foot Mining and Petroleum Training Service building at the Kenai River Campus. David Spann, a process technology professor in Soldotna, received the inaugural "Outstanding Process Technology Instructor of the Year" award from the Center for the Advancement of Process Technology in Texas. Meanwhile, the UAA nursing program in Soldotna graduated its first cohort of 10 students with associate degrees in nursing last year. And the first cohort of 12 paramedic students graduated with associate degrees, with all the graduates receiving job offers.



New Director for Kodiak College

Barbara Bolson was appointed permanent director of the Kodiak College after serving in an interim capacity following the retirement of former director Connie Dooley.



University of Alaska Fairbanks: system's research hub builds excellence

UAF awarded a record-setting 1,100 degrees, certificates and recommendations for licensure during its 85th commencement ceremonies in May.

Teaching and learning for student success

The Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities reaffirmed UAF's midterm accreditation at its January 2007 meeting. UAF has been continuously accredited since 1934 and more than a dozen programs have specialized accreditation.

The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business recently reaffirmed UAF's School of Management accreditation, which it has held since 1988. SOM is the oldest and only fully accredited business school in Alaska.

Fourth International Polar Year

Most of UA's IPY post-doctoral research fellows, created by President Hamilton in recognition of IPY, gathered at the June 2007 Board of Regents meeting in Fairbanks to briefly share their research with board members. Pictured from left are Amanda Booth, UAF; Jozsef Geml, UAF; Katey Walter, UAF; Sebastian Mernild, UAF; Guido Grosse, UAF; Olga Lovick, UAF; Andrew Whiteley, UAS/UAF; and Sara Mincks, UAF. Not pictured are Kathleen Graves, UAA; Christian Petrich, UAF; and Amy Tidwell, UAF. The International Polar Year is a two-year period of intensified research of Earth's polar regions. Funding for UA's IPY post-doctoral fellows, chosen from over 180 international applicants, came from the UA Foundation's BP and ConocoPhillips Fund. Gifts from BP and ConocoPhillips to the university have totaled over \$30 million since 1999.









Research continues to grow

FY07 marked the beginning of the fourth International Polar Year, an event that occurs once every 50 years. It represents a period of intense, internationally coordinated research to gain new knowledge about Earth's polar regions. UAF Chancellor Steve Jones established an IPY Office to promote UA research, education and outreach activities.

Research brings more than \$100 million to the university each year through UAF's colleges, schools and research institutes. UAF ranked sixty-third out of 200 universities for grants awarded by the National Science Foundation. However, UAF ranks fifth among small research institutions according to a national study that measures the scholarly activities of universities and their faculty members. The same study also listed UAF's atmospheric sciences and environmental sciences programs among the top 10 of all U.S. universities, large and small. In addition to the recent opening of the Cold Climate Housing Research Center (a partnership with UAF) and occupation of the new Biological Research and diagnostics facility (BiRD), other new construction projects related to UAF research include the new State Virology Lab building, a joint project with the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services. The \$32 million lab will be connected to the BiRD facility, providing opportunities for collaboration.

UAF research revenues have grown from \$99 million in FY02 to over \$122 million in FY06. UAF received many grants and awards in the past year. Here is a snapshot:

The National Science Foundation awarded Alaska's Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) a \$9 million grant for its three-year project, "Resilience and Vulnerability in a Rapidly Changing North." This

award, the third and last phase of Alaska EPSCoR, runs through 2010. UAA is a partner in this project.

UAF received a \$3.8 million grant for its role in one of six national centers to study influenza viruses with pandemic potential, such as avian influenza H5N1. UAF is a partner in an \$18.5 million National Institutes of Health award made to the University of California, Los Angeles, for creation of the Center for Rapid Influenza Surveillance and Research.

The NSF awarded more than \$6.5 million to four UAF researchers studying diverse aspects of the arctic region. Three of the four projects are part of UAF's collaborative IPY research efforts.

UAF was awarded the first phase of funding for construction of the Alaska Region Research Vessel, a 236-foot, \$123-million ice-capable vessel to support research in high latitudes. This ship will replace the aging Alpha Helix.

UAF research revenues have grown from \$99 million in FY02 to over \$122 million in FY06.

Kudos and accolades received

A federal review panel recognized the Alaska Sea Grant College Program as among the nation's best marine research. education and extension programs.

UAF graduate Katey Walter and IPY postdoctoral fellow received the nation's most prestigious honor for doctoral dissertations by the Council of Graduate Schools. Walter was awarded first place in mathematics, physical sciences and engineering for her Ph.D. dissertation, "Methane **Emissions and Biogeochemistry** of North Siberian Thermokarst Lakes."

UAF named the International Arctic Research Center building for its founding director, Syun-Ichi Akasofu, who retired from the university last spring after more than 40 years of service. Akasofu also recently published "Exploring the Secrets of the Aurora. Second Edition."

Officials named the Natural Sciences Facility for former provost Paul Reichardt, who retired last spring after more than 35 years of service. He was the 2007 Edith Bullock Award winner.

Sundance Film Festival recently selected "Chronic Town," a sliceof-life dark comedy written by UAF English alumnus Michael Kamsky, directed by Tom Hines and co-produced by UAF theater professor Maya Salganek, from among 3,600 submitted for the festival by filmmakers from across the world. The movie was shot in Fairbanks in March 2007. Nine UAF students worked as production assistants, while dozens more were included as extras. Sundance chose the film, along with 120 others, for the exclusive January 2007 festival.

Student outreach a primary focus

New admission requirements for baccalaureate-degree-seeking students will go into effect in fall 2008. UA's FY09 budget request includes specific academic and advising initiatives designed to improve student success, retention and graduation rates.

The UAF Alaska Summer Research Academy, hosted by the College of Natural Science and Mathematics, welcomed a record class in July. More than 130 students in grades 8-12 participated during two weeks of intensive research and instruction.

The 19th annual Alaska Statewide High School Science Symposium, hosted by UAF through the Institute of Arctic Biology and the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, drew 60 students from around the state last spring.









More than 400 secondary students attended UAF's Jazz Festival in April, coordinated by the College of Liberal Arts' Music Department. Each year, the festival provides opportunities for Alaska's high school and middle school students to perform for each other and be evaluated by guest artists and university faculty.

UAF engages community

A group of 55 local, state and university leaders assembled on campus in March to chart a course for the university's future. The group, dubbed the Vision 2017 Task Force, reviewed UAF's strategic plan and will make recommendations on how to implement it. A final report is due out in spring 2008.

More than 5,000 Alaskans attended the Science for Alaska lecture series in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau and Seward last spring. The event,

organized by UAF's Geophysical Institute, featured scientists from UAF, UAA and UAS, as well as experts from state and federal agencies.

Clemon "Clem" Johnson, a member of the 1982-83 Philadelphia 76ers team that captured the National Basketball Association Championship title, was named the Nanooks' interim head coach for men's basketball in May.

KUAC's Michael Letzring and Deb Lawton each won an Emmy at the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Northwest Chapter awards ceremony in June for their work on "The 49th Star," a documentary about the struggle for Alaska statehood. Aaron Elterman received an Emmy for "AlaskaOne Mission Spots." KUAC FM reporter Libby Casey received three Edward R. Murrow awards from the Radio-Television News Directors Association.

Philanthropic support grows

UAF's reinvigorated fund-raising efforts resulted in a 50 percent increase in dollars raised in FY07 compared to the previous year, with the number of individuals giving to UAF up by 19 percent. This includes an increase in the number of alumni giving, a key component of long-term success.

Recent major gifts will enhance student opportunities. A \$5-million, six-year grant from the Rasmuson Foundation will allow the School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences to develop a new undergraduate fisheries curriculum. Alveska Pipeline Service Co. pledged \$500,000 over the next five years to bolster programs such as the Rural Alaska Honors Institute. the School of Management's MBA program and the Science for Alaska Lecture Series. The Liz Claiborne and Art Ortenberg Foundation pledged \$250,000 over the next 10 years for students working in international wilderness conservation.

RAHI welcomes record class for 25th session

Pictured at left is RAHI's Introduction to Business class taught by Liz Ross: Front row, left to right Angela Folger, Andrea Sampson, Jennifer Martelle, Denise Katongan and Asta Keller (Wells Fargo Assistant Vice President of Community Development). Back row, left to right Denise Wartes (RAHI Program Coordinator), Sasha Ruesch, Angelia Alstrom, Diana Merlino, Norman Carlo, Samantha Grimes, Mae Pedginski, Billy Westcott, Jamie Spears (Service Manager of Wells Fargo Fairbanks University Branch) and Liz Ross (Instructor of the RAHI Wells Fargo Business Class 2007).

RAHI is a summer college preparatory program run by UAF's College of Rural and Community Development. The 60 juniors and seniors attending the 2007 program came from more than three dozen communities across Alaska. They spent six weeks living in UAF dormitories, building their academic skills and learning first-hand about college life. They took courses throughout the program and earned up to 11 college credits for their efforts.



UAF professor George Guthridge named 2007-2008 Fulbright Scholar

Faculty earn honors

UAF English professor George Lloyd Guthridge, at the Bristol Bay campus in Dillingham, was named a 2007-2008 Fulbright Scholar. Guthridge is lecturing at Sir Arthur Lewis Community College, in Castries, St. Lucia, throughout this academic year on use of nonfiction elements in fiction writing. Guthridge is one of two UA professors to receive a Fulbright this year.

UAF history professor Terrence Cole and adjunct professor Dermot Cole, longtime journalist at the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner, were among a dozen recipients of the 2006 Governor's Awards for the Arts and Humanities. The Cole brothers, identical twins, both received the Distinguished Service to the Humanities award.

In May, UAF honored recipients of the 2007 Emil Usibelli Distinguished Teaching, Research and Public Service awards. Yelena Matusevich, associate professor of French, received the teaching award; A. David McGuire, professor of ecology, received the research award; and Shirish Patil, associate professor of petroleum engineering, received the public service award.







Community campuses, programs provide vital link to Alaska

In the upcoming year, the Interior-Aleutians Campus will assume leadership of the Tribal Technical Assistance Program through a new \$1.2 million dollar grant received from the Federal Highways Administration. The award is to provide technical assistance to the 200-plus tribes throughout Alaska. Through a newly funded U.S. Department of Education grant, Interior-Aleutians also will work to develop outreach efforts to future UAF students via a new \$1 million Upward Bound grant.

The Bristol Bay Campus had a nearly 33 percent increase in student headcount during 2006-2007 over the previous academic year.

Kuskokwim Campus in Bethel is implementing a new ethnobotany certificate program, which is the main KuC objective in the five-year newly received USDA Higher Education grant. The Board of Regents in December approved a new Bachelor of Arts degree for Yup'ik language and culture at Kuskokwim Campus.

Northwest Campus in Nome is in the process of rolling out the new High Latitude Range Management program funded through the USDA Higher Education grant. This program takes advantage of the interest and knowledge of local reindeer herders.

Chukchi Campus in Kotzebue received an \$800,000 U.S. Housing and Urban Development grant to develop and deliver Construction Trades Technology courses in carpentry, plumbing and electrician training to the region.

Tanana Valley Campus last year graduated over 275 students with job-focused certificates and associate degrees in over 40 different program areas. This represents over 20 percent of all UAF graduates and fulfills UAF's important community college mission.

2007 Usibelli Recipients









University of Alaska Southeast: system's smallest hub makes big strides



UAS professor wins American **Book Award**

University of Alaska Southeast assistant professor of English, Ernestine Hayes, won the 28th annual American Book Awards for 2007 for "Blonde Indian, an Alaska Native Memoir."

Past winners include such wellknown writers as Russell Banks. Gerald Vizenor and José Antonio Burciaga. Since its publication in 2006, Hayes's memoir has earned regional, national and international acclaim. It was a finalist for the Kirivama Prize and a creative nonfiction finalist in the PEN Center USA Literary Awards. It has been called a "rewarding, evocative, ultimately uplifting view of Native life," by Booklist and "one of the most important books to come out of Alaska," by the Anchorage Press.

Arizona Press describes the book as blending folklore, metaphor and a richly textured description the Alaskan landscape. "Blonde Indian" offers a unique window into the challenges, rewards and ambiguities that one woman of racially mixed heritage experiences both within and outside her native Tlingit community.

The American Book Award was established in 1978 by the Before Columbus Foundation to recognize outstanding literary achievement from America's diverse literary community.

UAS opens mine training center

UAS began offering entry level mine training in October. The Alaska Department of Labor & Workforce Development provided funding to the university's Mining and Petroleum Training Services Program, based at UAA's Kenai Peninsula College. The MAPTS program is branching out through UAS to make the training available in the Southeast region.

The program is in direct response to the mining industry's request for better trained entry-level employees. Skills obtained in the training help workers succeed on the job and make them better candidates to move up the career ladder. The program includes entry level mine labor training, Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) training, and entry level underground miner classes.





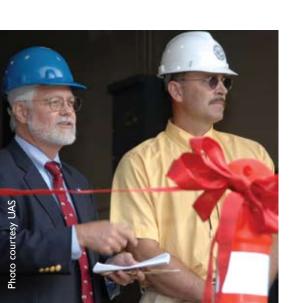


UAS hosted the premiere of the KTOO television production "Alaska College Track 2" in October 2007 prior to statewide broadcast on AlaskaOne. An open discussion about the transition from high school to college followed the premiere, with panelists UAS Chancellor John Pugh, Juneau Douglas High School Counselor Frank Coenraad, UAS Director of Admissions Joe Nelson and UAS student and documentary subject Amanda Bremner.

Katie Bausler, a previous producer for KTOO and now UAS director of marketing and public relations, was producer.

Former UAS marketing and public relations director Kevin Myers, who recently left Juneau to take a job Outside, was associate producer. The program highlights what it takes for rural Native students to succeed in college, including a supportive academic environment embraces Native culture. The documentary was a followup to a similar program KTOO produced several years ago. First National Bank Alaska and the University of Alaska Foundation's BP and ConocoPhillips Fund provided funding for the program.

UAS assists in public television documentary



UAS Chancellor John Pugh and Department of Labor and Workforce Development Commissioner Click Bishop at the ribbon cutting ceremony for the UAS - MAPTS Mine Training Center.

Workforce development efforts earn grants

UAS Ketchikan was awarded \$275,000 over three years from the University of Alaska Supplemental Workforce Development Funding. The grant paid for the hiring of assistant director for workforce development Wendy Gierard, who will be responsible for planning, design, management and evaluation of workforce development programs for highdemand jobs and the statewide tech-prep initiative. Gierard comes from Ketchikan General Hospital, where she served as foundation development manager. She previously worked as public information specialist at UAS Ketchikan.

A second grant of \$60,000 from the same Supplemental Workforce Development Funding was awarded to the UAS Ketchikan Welding Department. It will purchase air cleaners and electrical modifications to expand the capacity of the welding shop, located in the Hamilton Building on Stedman Street. The expanded welding shop will increase student capacity and enable more students to take courses simultaneously. It also will provide space for the shipyard welding training program partnership.









The UAS Automotive Technology program is the Alaska winner, and national runner-up, for the Automotive Industry Planning Council Award of Excellence for Post-Secondary programs.

UAS Automotive Technology department head Tony Martin accepted the award at the Association for Career and Technical Education Convention in Atlanta, Ga.

"Tony is dedicated to making the UAS automotive technology program an area of excellence for UAS," said UAS Dean of Career Education Karen Schmitt. "It is wonderful that Tony and the program are being recognized on both a regional and national level." The UAS Automotive Technology program was awarded two vehicles in recognition of its achievement. The new cars will provide state of the art technology for helping to train students.

Auto tech program wins national accolades



Karen Schmitt, Tony Martin and UAS Chancellor John Pugh with the new cars awarded to the UAS Automotive Technology program.

New UAS bookstore

Bookstore manager Sara Hagan, left, poses with employees Melissa Novak and Sarah Campen. The old Horton Hardware Building at Auke Bay was completely renovated in 2007, providing space for an expanded bookstore as well as offices for human resources and administrative services staff.



Prominent mercury researcher Daniel Engstrom teamed with UAS geochemistry professor Sonia Nagorski on a UAS-led research project to measure mercury within the watersheds of Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve. The National Park Service funded research, which is part of UAS' contribution to the fourth International Polar Year.

Enastrom is director of the St. Croix Watershed Research Station in Minnesota. His research centers on longterm environmental change, particularly the effects of human activities on water quality, atmospheric chemistry and biogeochemical processes on a global scale.

Mounting evidence suggests that pollutants, such as mercury and DDT, are spreading globally in Earth's atmosphere, perhaps being concentrated in Alaska's waters. The research team sampled water, fish, sediment and invertebrates in at least a dozen streams in Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve during the summer of 2007. The research will contribute to a better understanding of the impact contaminants play in marine ecosystems.









The Experiential Discoveries in Geoscience Education (EDGE) project is an initiative of UAS faculty to help Alaska's middle and high school teachers design exciting curriculum that will help students meet the state's Earth science performance standards. The project is funded by the National Science Foundation.

The EDGE cohort of 14 teachers and 18 students gathered in the UAS Egan Classroom for a science symposium that showcased the student GIS- based projects. The high school students also participated in the Southeast Alaska Regional Science Fair at UAS Egan Library.

Those events were the culmination of a year-long series of workshops, courses, and projects that taught the participants research methodology. Students took field trips to the Mendenhall Glacier and rafting trips down the Mendenhall River to apply what they learned in the classroom.

EDGE program helps science teachers

Students visit Greens Creek mine

Agroup of 15 chemistry, geology, environmental science students and faculty traveled to Admiralty Island to tour the Greens Creek mine, mill and tailings disposal sites.

University of Alaska **BOARD** of **REGENTS**2007



Mary K. Hughes Chair (2002-2009)



Cynthia Henry Vice Chair (2003-2011)



Carl Marrs Treasurer (2005-2013)



Michael Snowden Secretary (2003-2009)



William Andrews (2007-2009)



Timothy C. Brady (2005-2015)



Fuller Cowell (2007-2015)



Erik Drygas (2007-2011)



Patricia Jacobson (2007-2015)



Robert Martin (2005-2013)



Kirk Wickersham (2007-2015)



Mark Hamilton UA President

The University of Alaska is hereby established as the state University and constituted a body corporate. It shall have title to all real and personal property now or hereafter set aside for or conveyed to it.... and shall be governed by a board of regents... The board shall, in accordance with law, formulate policy and appoint the president of the university.



Many Traditions One Alaska

The University of Alaska is an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer and educational institution.

This publication was released by the University of Alaska and printed in Fairbanks, Alaska.

Produced by the University of Alaska Statewide Office of Public Affairs - January 2008

Kate Ripley, Director Layout by Nile Mueller, Publication Specialist

With thanks to Debbie Carter and staff members at UAA. UAF and UAS Regent photos © Nelson Photography

Additional photo credits:

page 9

Photo by James Barker

Photo by Dennis Witmer/UAF

Photo by TVC

page 13

Photo by Nile Mueller/UA

Photo by Michael Dinneen/UAA

Photo by Douglas Causey /UAA

page 17

Photo by Gulf of Alaska 2004, NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration

Photo by Shawn Harper/SFOS

Photo by Gordon Haas/SFOS

page 21

Photo courtesy UAA

Photo by Darcy Duvlea/TVC

Photo © Matt Hage

page 27

Photo by Kevin Engle/UAF

Photo by Jenn Wagaman/UAF

Photo by Jenn Wagaman/UAF

page 33

Photos by Nile Mueller/UA

page 37

Photos by Nile Mueller/UA

page 39

Photo by Leslie Boyd

Photo courtesy Sharman Haley/UAA

Photo courtesy UAA

page 41

Photo courtesy UAA

Photo courtesy UAA

Photo courtesy UAA

page 43

Photo by Todd Paris/UAF

Photo by Meriam Karlsson/SNRAS

Photo by Kate Ripley/UA

page 45

Photo courtesy RAHI

UAF SNRAS photo by Gary Michaelson

Photo courtesy RAHI

page 47

Photo by Rachael Kvapil/UAF

Photo by Todd Paris/UAF

Photo courtesy RAHI

page 49

Photo courtesy UAS

Photo by Nile Mueller/UA

Photo by Kevin Myers/UAS

page 51

Photo by Darcy Duvlea/TVC

Photo by Darcy Duvlea/TVC

Photo by Kevin Myers/UAS

Photos courtesy UAS (all)

Cover photos, left to right:

UAF SNRAS photo by Gary Michaelson

Photo by Todd Paris, UAF

Marketing and Publications

Photo by Todd Paris, UAF

Marketing and Publications

